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FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1597
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS FREETOWN 000745

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DS/IP/AF, DS/DSS/CC, AF/W, AF/EX, S/CT, CA

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>ASEC PTER</u> <u>SL</u>

SUBJECT: POST CONVENES EMERGENCY ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: STATE 165787

- 11. In response to reftel, Ambassador Perry convened an Emergency Action Committee Meeting (EAC) on December 18, 2007 to discuss our current political and security situation in Sierra Leone heading into the holiday season. The Ambassador expressed concern over the current situation of rising fuel prices within the country and the fact that the new administration does not have a sufficient amount of money to meet all its goals to improve the country. This coupled with the possibility of the government failing to live up to a promise to provide electrical power to Freetown by December 20th may prompt discontent among the population.
- 12. The EAC agreed that the present security posture at the Embassy is commensurate with the current situation. However, the RSO took this opportunity to review with EAC members, their areas of responsibilities and key components within the Post's Emergency Action Plan. In addition, the RSO urged staff members to review a recently distributed security notice highlighting safe practices for the holiday season, a time when the heavy influx of visitors attracts criminal activity.
- 13. The EAC will continue to monitor the current situation and will make adjustments to Post security posture as needed.

PERRY